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SRI R. KRISHNAN :—" What categories of workers are considered to be included in the scheme for providing houses? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am afraid I should ask for notice, because I think it is for all workers."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" The Hon Minister said, '20 houses for 9,000 '. I would like to know what exactly he means by it. Does he mean that 20 houses are provided for 9,000 workers or does he mean the cost to be Rs. 9,000? Secondly, may I ask him to tell us what is the total amount that is spent upon the housing of workers and what is the total cost of the scheme for the housing of the superior staff separately? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I want notice for the second half of the question. But with regard to the first half, what I said was that 20 houses are going to be built in the Andhra Sugars, Tanuku, and a block for two workers is going to cost Rs. 9,000. The original estimate was certainly more, but the Government of India in their plan deleted one veranda and brought down the cost. So, a block for two workers will cost Rs. 9,000, i.e., each worker will have a portion costing Rs. 4,500."

Number of cases instituted under the Madras City Police Act.

* 108 Q.—SRI B. LAKSHMINARASA RAJU : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madras City Police Act has been extended to the mufassal and, if so, to what towns and for what reasons;

(b) the number of cases instituted under the Act in the several places to which it has been extended and the results of such cases; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Superior Police Officers insist on certain minimum number of prosecutions being filed under the Act by their subordinate officers resulting in grave injustice to innocent public?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (a) The provisions of some or all of the sections of the Madras City Police Act, 1888, referred to in the Schedule to the Madras District Police Act, 1859, have been extended to a large number of towns in the mufassal, from time to time as and when it became necessary to apply those provisions for the enforcement of traffic regulations, the prevention of nuisances, to control criminals and unruly elements, etc. It will be impracticable to give the reasons for the extension separately for all such towns, but I have given the reasons generally speaking.

" (b) Provisions of the Madras City Police Act have been in force for a considerable time in a large number of places in the mufassal so that it will be altogether impracticable to furnish up-to-date particulars regarding the number of cases instituted under the Act in the mufassal and the results of all

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such cases. I need hardly say the Government consider that the labour involved in collecting the available information is not commensurate with the public good to be served thereby.

" (c) The answer is in the negative."

SRI B. LAKSHMINARASA RAJU :—" గౌరవనీయులైన మనుష్యులను కొంత మందిని కొన్ని గ్రామాలలో ఈ సిటీ పోలీసుయాక్టు క్రింద అరెస్టు చేసి శిక్షించుచుండుట నిజమేనా ? "

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" He says that under the guise of this Act some important persons in the villages are arrested and sentenced. He wants to know if it is true."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is likely that in some places some important people have been caught committing sanitary offences."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" When the Madras City Police Act is extended to panchayat board areas, major as well as minor, are the Government aware of the difficulties of the people there, particularly in obtaining permission to hold meetings from the Deputy Superintendents of Police and Circle Inspectors who may not be stationed in the particular village or panchayat area? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the extension is mainly intended for the purpose of improving the sanitary conditions and for the other purposes that I mentioned. Incidentally I quite understand that these difficulties might have arisen. But if such a matter is brought to the notice of the Government, we shall see whether any modifications are necessary. According to the original provision in the Act—it is a very old Act—urbanization was intended to be gradually extended, and under that provision, these general provisions are extended. If the right of arranging for meetings comes into play more and more largely in these villages, we may have to change the procedure in respect of those matters."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Are the Government aware that, in 1948 in Cannanore, 600 persons were charged within three months under the provisions of the Madras City Police Act? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is interesting. But will the hon. Member be able to tell me also any other similar place or area where the number is very different? Then I could guess some reason for it."

SRI G. SATYANARAYANA :—" ఈ సిటీ పోలీసు యాక్టు క్రింద అనేక పట్నాలలో చాలా మందిని, ప్రతివారిని కూడా, వారాల వారీగా, నెలవారీగా, లెక్క-పంపుటకు వారు యిన్ని కేసులు పట్టాలనే ఉద్దేశ్యంతో రాత్రిళ్లు సినీమా చూచివచ్చే వారిని అనేక మందిని అరెస్టుచేసి పోలీసు స్టేషనుకు తీసుకొనిపోయి మరుసటిరోజు వరకూ ఉంచి కొంత మందికి జరిమానాలు విధింపజేసి వదలివేయడం నిజమేనా ?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the question is rather general. You will bear with me when I say that when people remain for long hours cooped up in a cinema-house and then come out, it is probable they give occasion to prosecution for sanitary offences. Sanitary laws, so far as these rules are concerned, have to be applied. Gradually, we will have to make people understand that they should not use the roadside for such purposes, and it is probable that people do not like it. I am sorry I am not able to give the reply in Telugu."

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM :—" The Hon. the Chief Minister told us just now that certain sections of the City Police Act had been extended to mufassal centres. Is it not a fact that the provisions of section 30 of the City Police Act have been extended to mufassal centres to restrict the holding of public meetings, etc.? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" If the hon. Member is asking me whether the motive was not bad, I say ' No, Sir.' "

SRI G. ANJANEYULU :—" సిటీ పోలీసు యాక్టు క్రింద ఏ కేసులు దొరకనప్పుడు యిండ్లలో ఉన్నవారిని తీసుకొనివచ్చి వారిమీద కేసులు బనాయించారు, నిజమేనా ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" There are many false cases and false defences also and hon. Members cannot accept anything without a trial. The Courts hold a trial, and come to conclusions and we should accept them."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Are the Government aware that the people consider this old Act as an Act of nuisance rather than an Act for the prevention of nuisance? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is an interesting way of putting it. It explains the state of mind of our people generally with regard to such controls."

Hunger-strike by Communist prisoners in Salem Jail.

* 109 Q.—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that several Communist prisoners in the Salem Central Jail have gone on hunger-strike since the evening of the 28th June 1952;

(b) if so, the reason for the same; and

(c) what steps the Government have taken to bring the strike to an end?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAYAR :—" (a) The answer is in the negative.

" (b) & (c) Do not arise."